Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2008-30

Mesotrione

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of a new use on cranberries to the product label of Callisto 480SC Herbicide, containing technical grade mesotrione, is acceptable. The specific use approved in Canada is detailed on the label of Callisto 480SC Herbicide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 27833.

The evaluation of this mesotrione application indicated that the end-use product has merit and value and that the human health and environmental risks associated with the new use are acceptable. Details regarding the registration can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Report that is available on the PMRA website, under Public Registry, Product Information, Current Applications.[1]

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not pose an unacceptable health risk. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRL for mesotrione is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps).

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRL for mesotrione in Canada in or on food, to be added to those already legally established, is as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limit for Mesotrione

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Mesotrione	2-[4-(methylsulfonyl)-2-nitrobenzoyl]-1,3-cyclohexanedione	0.01	Cranberries

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found on the PMRA's MRL webpage.

[1] The relevant report can be accessed by selecting the Programs and Special Actions/Minor Use/Historical tab and opening the Evaluation Report found under Application Number 2008-0233.

International Situation and Trade Implications

MRLs may vary from one country to another for a number of reasons, including differences in pesticide use patterns and the locations of the crop field trials used to generate residue chemistry data. As per Table 2, the proposed MRL in Canada differs from the corresponding tolerance established in the United States (tolerances listed in 40 CFR Part 180 by pesticide). Currently, Codex MRLs[2] have not been established for mesotrione on any commodity (Codex MRLs searchable by pesticide or commodity).

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRL, American Tolerance and Codex MRL

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Cranberries	0.01	0.02	No Codex MRL established.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for mesotrione up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRL for mesotrione and posting a corresponding Established Maximum Residue Limit (EMRL) document on the PMRA's website.

[2] Codex is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.